

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

WEST POINT HONORS GENERAL
ROSCOE ROBINSON, JR.

HON. WILLIAM (BILL) CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to advise my colleagues that West Point will dedicate its first permanent memorial in memory of a distinguished African-American graduate, on April 7, 2000. The life of the late General Roscoe Robinson, Jr., a St. Louis native, will be honored as his name is placed on the most prominent lecture facility at the United States Military Academy located in historic Thayer Hall.

A member of the USMA Class of 1951, General Roscoe Robinson, Jr. was the first African-American graduate of West Point to achieve four-star rank in the Army. The Academy presented him the Association of Graduates Distinguished Graduate Award shortly before his death in 1993. He is interred at Arlington National Cemetery.

During his distinguished career as an Infantry officer, General Robinson was noted for his outstanding leadership and his love for the American soldier. He served in the 7th Infantry Division in Korea and commanded 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment in Vietnam. His major commands include US Army Garrison, Okinawa (The Ryukus), 82nd Airborne Division, and United States Army Japan/IX Corps. After earning his fourth star, General Robinson served as the United States Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Military Committee. He retired from the Army in 1983.

This highly visible memorial will commemorate one of America's most respected soldiers. General Robinson's widow, Mrs. Mildred Robinson, and other family members will participate in the ceremony. Other attendees will include political leaders, senior retired and active duty military officers, as well as USMA staff, faculty and cadets.

The Dedication Project Officer, responsible for the organization and successful execution of this momentous occasion is LTC Charles Dunn III. He is the Executive Officer of the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science. I send my best wishes to all who will participate in this historic ceremony celebrating the memory of General Roscoe Robinson, Jr., a truly outstanding African-American leader.

CONGRATULATING THE PEOPLE
OF SRI LANKA

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution congratulating the peo-

ple of Sri Lanka for their commitment to democracy in the face of on-going terrorism. I am pleased to be joined in this effort by Congressman PALLONE of New Jersey, who with me co-chairs the Congressional Caucus on Sri Lanka.

In December's presidential elections, the incumbent, Chandrika Kumaratunga, was re-elected to a second six-year term with 51 percent of the vote. Her nearest rival got 43 percent. The final days of the campaign were marred by a terrorist attack in which the President was injured. A total of 22 people were killed and more than 100 others injured in that attack and in another terrorist incident. These attacks have been blamed on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), an organization that has been waging a violent campaign against the Sri Lanka Government for more than 25 years. The LTTE has been designated a terrorist organization by the U.S. State Department.

Yet, despite this shadow of violence, 8.6 million of the nation's 11.8 million registered voters cast ballots, for an impressive voter turn-out of 73 percent. This demonstrates the strong commitment of the Sri Lankan people to democracy and their refusal to be intimidated by terrorism. International observers, invited by the Sri Lankan government, were on hand to monitor the election. U.S. State Department spokesman James P. Rubin stated on November 30th that the U.S. Government applauded Sri Lanka's decision to invite the international observers.

Mrs. Kumaratunga, who was elected as the nation's first woman President in 1994, was sworn in to her second term on the day after the elections. In her address to the nation, the President pledged to combat terrorism and urged her compatriots to join her in establishing peace. She reached out to her main rival in the presidential race to join her in building a consensus to achieve these goals.

I hope that Members will join me in support of this resolution recognizing the commitment of the people of Sri Lanka and their government to democracy and to achieving peace.

SUPPORT THE COMMON SENSE
CENSUS ENFORCEMENT ACT OF
2000

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the many Georgians who have contacted me to complain that this year's census questionnaire is too intrusive. Today, I am introducing legislation that will address these serious concerns—The Common Sense Census Enforcement Act of 2000.

As every Member of the House of Representatives is acutely aware, the census is

constitutionally mandated for the purpose of apportioning federal legislative districts, and the population information gathered is also used in drawing state legislative district lines. The Constitution requires the federal government to conduct the census, and federal law (13 U.S.C. § 221) also requires that residents answer the census completely and truthfully. Failure to answer any questions can result in fines of up to \$100. Furthermore, if one intentionally provides inaccurate information in response to the census, the law provides for fines up to \$500. These penalties are understandable with regard to questions directly related to apportionment, in light of its central importance to our constitutional system. I do, however, question the appropriateness of imposing such penalties for refusal to answer questions unrelated to apportionment, and I am introducing legislation to remedy this situation.

Today, I am introducing The Common Sense Census Enforcement Act of 2000, which would eliminate the fine for failure to answer Census 2000 questions unrelated to apportionment. By taking this action, Congress can limit the intrusive nature of the census while still providing the government with the basic information necessary to administer our republic.

This legislation reflects the concerns many of my constituents have expressed with regard to the length and the content of this year's census. Most of the questions on the long form of the census clearly are not asked for purposes of apportionment, but rather to collect information necessary for the administration of any number of federal programs. Information gathered in the census is currently used for federal and state planning and funding of education and health care programs, transportation projects, etc. While it is true that federal law requires much of this information for program administration, the law does not require that this information be collected via the census or under any penalty at law. A great deal of information that was once collected through the census is already being gathered through surveys that do not bear the census' strict legal requirements.

In closing, I share the belief of many Georgians who find it inappropriate for the federal government to coerce citizens to provide personal information by packaging non-apportionment-related questions with the constitutionally required and legally enforceable apportionment census questions. In the future, either the information should be collected separately, or it should be made clear that no penalty will be applied to those who refuse to answer questions unrelated to apportionment. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of The Common Sense Census Enforcement Act of 2000.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

A TRIBUTE TO ENTREPRENEUR OF
THE YEAR YOLANDA COLLAZOS
KIZER

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to an outstanding fellow Arizonan, Yolanda Collazos Kizer. Yolanda is a well-respected business and community leader in Arizona and Phoenix, and someone I'm proud to call my friend.

Yolanda was recently awarded the prestigious Entrepreneur of the Year award by the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce for the year 2000. This award was established to honor extraordinary individuals that have not only been successful in the business world, but who have contributed to the community on a broader scale. The award recognizes Ms. Kizer for her influence as a role model among small business owners and in the Hispanic community.

Yolanda is the owner and president of three Phoenix-based businesses: CASA Fenix Merchandising owns and operates retail concessions at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport; Builder's Book Depot is a retail, mail order and electronic commerce bookstore that specializes in construction, architecture, interior design and engineering books; and Builders' Book Publishing Company produces specialty business management texts for the construction industry.

Yolanda is an active community leader and has served on a multitude of boards and commissions. Currently she sits on the Executive Committee of the City of Phoenix Sister Cities Commission and on the Governor's Diversity Council. She has professional affiliations that include memberships in the National Association of Women Business Owners, the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Arizona Chamber of Commerce, the Association of Minority Owned Airport Concessions, and the American Booksellers Association. She has previously served on the City of Phoenix Commission on the Economy, First Interstate Bank Community Advisory Board, Arizona Veterans Memorial Coliseum and Exposition Center Board of Directors, and the Governor's Strategic Plan for Economic Development. She is also the former President and Board member of the Arizona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

Not only is Yolanda a tireless worker in the business community, she also spends many hours giving back and facilitating the success of others. Yolanda has served as a mentor to many young women, and she is a founding member of MUJER, a Hispanic women's organization in Arizona. Yolanda has given freely of her experience and expertise by giving seminars and lectures throughout the Valley of the Sun. As a policy maker, through her various civic roles, she has made important contributions to and helped to shape today's business environment.

Mr. Speaker, as you can surmise, Yolanda Kizer is an exemplary community leader and a true role model for young entrepreneurs across the nation. Therefore, I am pleased to pay tribute to my friend Yolanda, congratulate her on this most recent accomplishment, and wish her continued success.

CONCERNING ORGAN PROCURE-
MENT AREA IN KENTUCKY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, April 4, Mr. DINGELL referenced the different waiting times for liver transplants between the two Kentucky transplant centers. As you might know, both centers are in the same organ procurement area (OPA). The different waiting times are the result of the different status levels of the individuals on the waiting list. It is not a reflection of geographic unfairness. Seriousness of condition, not time on the waiting list, is the determining factor for who gets a liver transplant. As the Institute of Medicine report stated, aggregated waiting time is a poor measure of equity in the transplant field.

At the request of both Kentucky organ transplant centers, I was pleased to cosponsor H.R. 2418, the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Amendments Act. Let's keep important transplant decisions with the physicians and transplant centers who actually save lives. Let's keep the Washington, bureaucrats out of this issue.

END THE BERMUDA TAX DODGE

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, the Hartford Courant recent ran an editorial endorsing an effort to "end the Bermuda tax dodge." I agree with this editorial, which is why I am joining my colleague Representative NANCY JOHNSON in introducing legislation to put an end to this loophole.

During the past year, several Bermuda-based companies have either acquired a U.S. property-casualty insurer, or U.S. reinsurers have relocated to Bermuda. A major reason for these actions was to allow insurers to avoid U.S. income tax on investment income by reinsuring their U.S. owned subsidiaries' reserves to a parent located in a tax haven such as Bermuda, which has no income tax. It works like this: the company pays a one-time 1 percent federal excise tax to reinsure offshore, and in return, the foreign reinsurer earns tax-free investment income on the transferred reserves for as long as they are held offshore. By escaping all U.S. income tax, these companies can have up to ten percent pricing advantage over U.S. taxpaying companies in the U.S. marketplace.

Mr. Speaker, such an advantage to foreign companies over U.S. owned companies is patently unfair and should be eliminated immediately. Our legislation solves the problem by imputing investment income to the U.S. subsidiary of the foreign reinsurer or business sent offshore to a tax haven. This language is intended to affect only reinsurance transactions with foreign reinsurers domiciled in tax haven countries such as Bermuda, and it only impacts business ceded between related parties.

This is not a trade issue, as some would like to make it. The purpose of insurance is to

enable property-casualty companies to spread risk among several companies. The practice of reinsurance allows greater access to insurance for consumers, promotes solvency in the marketplace, and helps ensure claims are paid to customers. But this is not the true purpose of the transactions affected by this bill. In these cases, reinsurance is written between related parties—a U.S. subsidiary cedes U.S. business to its foreign based parent—simply to obtain a tax benefit. No risk has been spread in this transaction, the company is simply moving money from one pocket to another pocket within the same corporate entity. The primary purpose is to escape U.S. income tax.

Mr. Speaker, we welcome any comments or suggestions on this legislation from the Treasury Department, the Joint Committee on Taxation, any party affected by this bill, or anyone concerned that they might be. This is clearly a very technical issue, but that should not stop Congress from moving quickly to shut down this loophole. If we do not stop this practice, then other U.S. companies will be forced to relocate to Bermuda, or be bought by a Bermuda based parent, in order to stay competitive. This, in turn, will result in a significant reduction in U.S. corporate tax payments, and has implications not only for the property casualty business but also for affiliated corporations, especially life insurance companies, who could in theory benefit from this loophole.

Now is the time to take action, and hopefully Congress will act now.

STATEMENT BEFORE THE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON
FOREIGN OPERATIONS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I recently testified before the Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations on FY 2001 Budget Request on March 30, 2000. I submit my statement for the RECORD.

CONGRESSMAN DENNIS J. KUCINICH'S STATEMENT BEFORE THE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOREIGN OPERATIONS ON FY 2001 BUDGET REQUEST

Thank you Chairman Callahan and Ranking Member Pelosi for offering me an opportunity to relate my thoughts on the President's budget request for foreign operations to you and other Committee members.

I would like to begin by reminding my colleagues that it has been a full year since the start of the NATO air campaign on Yugoslavia. My comments will focus on United States and NATO efforts since this bombing campaign and the costs associated with these efforts, specifically with regard to peacekeeping operations and funding democracy activities in the region.

To start, the peacekeeping mission in Kosovo has only compounded our failures in the Balkans. A year later we are witnessing reversed ethnic cleansing of Serbs and Gypsies by Albanians. Since June of last year, more than 240,000 Serbs, Roma and Muslim Slav Gurani have fled the province of Kosovo. The composition of Kosovo is now almost completely Albanian as Serbs and other non-Albanians continue to flee for fear of their lives. Moreover, an Amnesty International report issued last month concluded that six months of peacekeeping efforts in

the region that "human rights abuses and crimes continue to be committed at an alarming rate, particularly against members of minority communities." It goes on to say that U.N. police and KFOR troops have been "unable to prevent violent attacks, including human rights abuses, often motivated by a desire of retribution, against non-Albanians." Many refugees are forced to live in nearby enclaves under heavy NATO protection. The U.N.'s goals of maintaining a multi-ethnic Kosovo has failed. For example, an attempt to reintegrate Serb and Kosovar children in school in the village of Plementina recently failed. In response, the U.N. Kosovo Mission (UNMIK) decided to build a separate school several kilometers away for security reasons. These failures have forced the head of the U.N. Kosovo Mission, Bernard Kouchner, to concede that "the most one can hope for is that they [Serbs and Albanians] can live side-by-side." So, it would seem that UNMIK's mission to Kosovo has drastically changed from maintaining a multi-ethnic society to one that must learn to co-exist side-by-side, but not together. Indeed, that is not even a representative picture. In fact, Kosovo's Serbian and other minority enclaves are being emptied of population. Kosovo will soon be ethnically cleansed during our peacekeeping operation, and NATO, KFOR and the U.S. will have to accept some responsibility for it.

One of the goals of the peacekeeping mission was to disarm and disband the armed militia groups. However, many members of these groups remain as active as ever under KFOR occupation. For example in the villages of Presovo, Medvedja and Bujanovac (UCPMB), which line the south Western border of Serbia where both ethnic Albanians and Serbs still live, an extremist group called the Liberation Army for Presovo is now active, though it did not exist before the peacekeeping mission began. Many members of this group are said to have been former militia members. The group has been blamed for a killing of a Serb police officer and attacks on UN staff.

Indeed, armed conflict could well get worse in the future under UN peacekeeping forces. Recently, American soldiers raided a radical group's command post seizing hundreds of stashed weapons. This region seems to be indicative of what seems to be a broader expansionist goal of creating a greater Albania. There are reports that violent clashes may spill into Macedonia and Montenegro. According to a Reuters news report last week, "The Yugoslav army and Montenegro policy agreed on Saturday to set up a joint checkpoint between the coastal republic and Kosovo in a bid to stop smuggling and terrorism spilling over from the province."

Moreover, I am concerned that continued peacekeeping operations may actually facilitate an escalation in violence in the region. It is my understanding that part of the mission of KFOR is not only to "keep the peace" in the region, but to also train local residents into a civilian police force. My concern is that UN troops are legitimizing and institutionalizing extremist or radical elements of society there by training them to be a police force. If that's true, then our forces and our funds are propping up extremist elements in Kosovo and consolidating their power.

If, indeed, UN troops are training rogue elements to become part of the civilian police force, Kosovo, then thus funding will not merely have been wasted, but will have contributed to instability in the region. I would like to put an American perspective on the proposed spending of \$29 million for continued peace keeping operations in the region. You might be interested in knowing that we

have a program in the United States called the Troops to COPS program, which provides law enforcement incentives to hire veterans who have served in our armed forces to serve as police officers. Funds are used to reimburse law enforcement agencies for training costs of qualified veterans. Since 1996, funding for this program has reached only \$2.3 million in 4 years. Why should we spend \$29 million dollars in one year on peacekeeping operations that could put extremist elements in charge of Kosovo and that so far has provided inadequate? Maybe we should be using these funds to train law abiding US veterans to become community police officers here in America.

Now, I would like to touch upon the funding request for the Support Eastern European Democracy (SEED) program—a program which, among other things, supports democratic movements in the region. The funding request has increased from \$77 million in 1999 to \$175 million in Kosovo and from \$6 million to over \$41 million in Serbia, Yugoslavia. It indicates increased and intensified US involvement in the internal politics of the area. Here, too, our efforts have backfired. Democratic opposition groups in Serbia are weaker today than they were a year ago. Milosevic is stronger. It should concern Congress that funds for promoting democracy can result in weakening the popular appeal of democracy advocates. Congress needs to place limitations on this funding to restore its integrity. Specifically, Congress should place the following limitations:

No funds should be appropriated for use by any armed group or advocates of violence.

No funds should be appropriated for use by any group that advocates the violent overthrow of the Serbian government.

I conclude by saying that you should be skeptical of the budget request for peacekeeping operations and the SEED program in Kosovo and Serbia based on the past year's failure. I support the reduction of funding for peacekeeping forces in the Balkans. I support the advancement of peace and democracy in the Balkans. To achieve these goals, Congress will have to place limitations on spending in the Balkans. Otherwise, we will be adding to the problem of instability and a lack of democracy in the Balkans region.

Thank you.

POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE INDEPENDENT STATES OF THE FORMER SOVIET UNION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, functioning democracy in the newly emerging independent states of the former Soviet Union requires setting up new political institutions and developing the means of conducting the people's business. As we have seen in many of these countries, this is proving to be a challenge beyond the patience and political will of their leaders, particularly given the harsh economic conditions throughout the region. More often than not, responsible economic policies represent, in the short term, even greater hardships for the people whose support is essential if democracy and market economy are to be sustained in these countries.

In Ukraine this challenge was put to test earlier this year when the Verkhovna Rada, Ukraine's parliament, was confronted with a

serious political crisis over the selection of the Speaker and other leadership positions. The Leftist forces, though in the minority, have managed to control the parliament for the past 18 months, thwarting the majority's efforts to implement President Kuchma's legislative agenda.

A vivid description of how the leftist speaker, Oleksandr Tkachenko, thwarted the majority and the subsequent developments that lead to his ouster are provided in a report by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. In Update on Ukraine, February 24, 2000, Markian Bilynskyj writes. "Until January 21, the final day of the fourth parliamentary session, the Rada was presided over by a chairman whose political ambitions and sense of indispensability were matched only by his limitations. Oleksandr Tkachenko had been elected essentially by default 18 months earlier as elements within the Rada and beyond fought to prevent the chairmanship from falling into the hands of anyone harboring presidential ambitions. His eventual, somewhat surprise decision to run brought about a further politicization of the legislative process and was the principal reason behind the Rada's growing ineffectiveness. Tkachenko's final unabashed identification with the communist candidate—a fitting conclusion to what can only be described as a parody of an election campaign—represented an abandonment of any pretense as impartiality and irreversibly undermined his credibility as Rada chairman. At the same time, President Leonid Kuchma's re-election altered the broader political context within which the Rada had to operate to such an extent that Tkachenko was transformed from a largely compromise figure into an anachronism".

After the December election, President Kuchma's administration joined with the pro-reform majority to challenge Speaker Oleksandr Tkachenko and his Communist-Left forces and succeeded in electing a new Speaker and many of the leadership positions in the Rada. The result is a newly constituted parliament with a majority now occupying key positions that is capable of responding to President Kuchma and Prime Minister Yushchenko's reform agendas.

I would like to submit for the record and bring to the attention of my colleagues an interview with Grigoriy Surkis, a prominent, businessman and member of the Rada.

IT'S TIME FOR TRANSPARENCY

(By Grigoriy Surkis)

It would be desirable if our Parliament did not have deep divisions between the majority and minority factions; however this is not possible due to deep-rooted ideological divisions in the country.

Former Speaker Tkachenko, leader of the Communists in the Rada, demonstrated his inability to work out a compromise even when the majority announced a willingness to work cooperatively with Communist leaders on a legislative program.

By the way, leaders of the Ukraine Communists should learn a lesson from their Russian counterparts, who recently made a deal with the pro-government factions in organizing the Duma and distributing assignments among party leaders. They have a difficult time understanding that Communist authoritarianism does not exist in post-Soviet societies, nor is it as strong after eight years of democracy.

However, it remains to be seen how the pro-government bloc in Russia will get the Communist Speaker of the Duma to act on

progressive legislation and actually achieve results. I sincerely wish that this arrangement will work so that the people of Russia benefit from progressive changes that will improve living standards that make for a better society.

In my opinion, Ukraine has chosen the right path. In parliament, we formed a majority bloc by uniting the "healthy" forces who were committed to reform legislation. This is necessary to ensure speedy action on a range of progressive proposals to deal with the problems of our pension system, taxes, and the criminal and civil code. This will help us to clean house in the Rada and institute badly needed changes that, in the past, impeded our efforts to confront these needs.

Is compromise possible? Let's think about it. We want our people to live in a new environment but there are some who want to pull us back to the old Soviet system. To go back is to lose hope and confidence in our ability to improve our situation. The reformers want a government that will enable people to own property while the Communists want people to be the property of the state. We believe that the Constitution is the basic law, but they still believe the "Party" is the supreme authority.

Finally, in a democracy it is acceptable to have a compromise, which is how people work out their differences. But the old guard distrusts working with what they see as the "bourgeois" and reject efforts to resolve differences amicably. So we are not talking about compromise in terms of confronting the issues and resolving differences, but the Communists see any negotiations with reformers as selling out or imposing a kompromat on us. I am reminded of the words of the great Golda Meir, who was born in Kiev, who once said: "We want to live. Our neighbors want to see us dead. I am afraid that this does not leave any space for compromise".

The problem would not be so serious if we were talking only about Parliament. However, we are talking about society as a whole. The Leftists seem committed to destroying the Rada, the one institution that ensures representation of the people in government decision-making. Perhaps they do not know about Abraham Lincoln's statement that a house divided cannot succeed and that their intransigence will prevent democracy from taking root in Ukraine. Everyone knows what happens to the person if his right leg makes two steps forward and the left remains rooted in the same spot.

I want to stress again that after the 1999 presidential election, it became obvious that a divided parliament with a Communist as Speaker would prove unacceptable and only serve to obstruct the reform agenda of the government. Had the Communists prevailed, they would have taken the country down the back road of political fatalism. Yet there are some who worry that the unfairness of winners hides the guilt of losers. I can only say that if the Leftists had won the election, we would not be asking these questions.

I am afraid that if the majority had allowed a Communist to remain as Speaker, it would have proved to be a temporary solution, similar to what will happen with the Duma. In the United States, it is possible for the Republicans to control the Congress and the other party to have the Presidency. This is possible because America has 200 years of experience working within a democratic system.

Our country does not have time to wait. For us, every day without enacting and implementing laws is a huge setback for a country that must accomplish so much in a critically short time. The majority knows that it is impossible to form a parliament without the opposition, and it is our inten-

tion to treat proposals from the opposition seriously. We have assumed political responsibility that gives us an opportunity to cooperate with the newly re-elected president who bears the main responsibility for society as a whole.

We recognize that it is the president who must provide the leadership and direct the institutions of government. Throughout the years of Ukraine's independence, there is not a single case when the three branches of power simultaneously worked together on behalf of Ukrainian citizens. Today we must take responsibility and are ready to be accountable for our actions.

Once again, we do not have time. The majority of Ukrainian citizens spoke very clearly in the recent election by giving President Kuchma a new four-year term. By this vote, they rejected the Communist Party and the idea of turning back to the old system where freedom and human rights did not exist.

The Communists, of course, feel threatened by the new democratic forces and their reform agenda. They do not want to relinquish power and recognize that a new generation of intelligent and resourceful leaders is taking charge. That is the promise of democracy and, if given a chance to succeed, the future of Ukraine in the new millennium.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to necessary medical treatment, I was not present for the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

April 3, 2000:

Rollcall vote 96, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1089, the Mutual Fund Tax Awareness Act, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote 97, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3591, providing the gold medal to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan, I would have voted "yea."

April 4, 2000:

Rollcall vote 98, on agreeing to the LaHood amendment to H.R. 2418, I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 99, on agreeing to the DeGette amendment to H.R. 2418, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall vote 100, on agreeing to the Luther amendment to H.R. 2418, I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall vote 101, on passage of H.R. 2418, the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network Amendments, I would have voted "yea."

THE TWO-HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the beginning of a New Millennium, we are reminded of the history and accomplish-

ments of our forebears in past centuries who "brought forth" as President Lincoln said, "on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." This year, 2000, also marks the Two-hundred and Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Founding of Easton, Massachusetts, which shares a unique role in the Colonial and Civil War history of this great country. I acknowledge the monumental spirit of the citizens of Easton, and to recognize their many contributions to the growth and development of the United States, and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

THE CONFEDERATE FLAG

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, there are a million reasons why the Confederate Flag should not be flying over any state capitol, comprise a part of any state flag, or be displayed in any place of honor or distinction. From its racist past to its polemic present, the one thing that can be stated unequivocally, is that today, the flag has become shrouded in an over-simplified, revisionist version of American history."

"Claims that the flag represents a benign segment of Southern history, ruled by some sort of genteel charm and virtuous code of conduct, are patently offensive to every American whose ancestors were brutalized by the stinging pains of slavery or ostracized by its illegitimate progeny, Jim Crow."

"This legislation is intended to set the record straight. The Leaders of the Confederate States of America were traitors. Had they been allowed to succeed in their ultimate act of betrayal, they would have destroyed all of the principles and freedoms we hold dear as Americans. It is impossible to celebrate the Confederate Flag and simultaneously profess one's love of democracy. It is self-delusional to attribute equality, freedom and opportunity to the Confederacy when its treasonous acts would have destroyed all of these values—these American values."

"As our nation tries to deal with rise in conspicuous acts of racial violence and hate, the one glaring fact with which we are frequently confronted is that we have not adequately and honestly dealt with our past. Once again, this resolution will be a constructive first step in starting that dialogue. I challenge one person who presently supports the flying of the Confederate flag to read the words contained in this legislation and say that the beliefs of the Confederacy, articulated in this bill, do not stand direct conflict with the principles we enjoy as one nation united and indivisible under God."

"At the end of the day, this bill is about the true history of the flag flying over the Capitol building in South Carolina. It clarifies the symbolism connected with the battle flag contained in the Mississippi and Georgia state flags. At the end of the day, this legislation begs the question, 'Will we, as Americans, united and God-fearing, allow ourselves to posthumously give the Confederacy the divided nation they so desperately fought to create, or will we embrace the fundamental principles which presently govern the moral conscience of our nation and work toward a day

when the actions of our shared, American heroes overshadow the treasonous acts of a group of traitors whose actions would have destroyed our nation."

RECOGNIZING 25 SAN MATEO
COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
FOR OVERCOMING OBSTACLES
AND SERVING AS ROLE MODELS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, this morning at a breakfast in Redwood Shores, California, the Family Service Agency of San Mateo County honored 25 high school students at a "Winners Breakfast," an annual recognition of high school seniors who have overcome great odds and are role models for their peers. Some six hundred people joined in celebrating the achievements of these outstanding students.

The Family Service Agency of San Mateo County is a private, non-profit social service organization which has established and supported programs throughout the County for children, seniors and families, and the Agency started the Winners Breakfast five years ago together with local businesses, the San Mateo County Office of Education and community leaders.

Mr. Speaker, this year the Family Service Agency is recognizing students who have faced a wide range of challenges, from homelessness, poverty and family and gang violence to chronic illness, personal tragedy, substance abuse and single parenthood. The students were chosen by personnel at the schools which they attend, and each honored student received a scholarship of \$500 paid for by sponsors of the program.

Heather Angney of the San Mateo County Times has written a series of excellent articles which appear in today's issue of the newspaper paying tribute to those students being honored today, and the Times is one of the supporters of the effort to provide funds for these students.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the Congress to join me in paying tribute to these outstanding students who were honored today for their perseverance in overcoming the tremendous difficulties they faced. These students are as follows:

Alexandra Chiles of Atherton was diagnosed with cancer at age 12 and endured endless rounds of chemotherapy and radiation treatments. Many years, she was too sick to enjoy Christmas. When she was able to go to school, she often went with thin hair and her face swollen by drugs. Through all this, Alex achieved more than most students, qualifying for the National Honor Society, gentling a nervous horse and volunteering in soup kitchens. In Alex's case, the recognition is bitter-sweet. She died March 22. Her parents, Anita and Robert Chiles of Atherton, will attend the breakfast and join in recognizing other students who are succeeding in spite of great challenges. As Alexandra's mother said, "She was a wonderful model of how we should all confront our problems in life."

Maria Ruth Alvarado of Woodside High School prevailed over abuse, homelessness and poverty to become an activist at school

and in her East Palo Alto neighborhood, tutoring at community centers and starting a support group for gay and HIV-positive people.

Albert Balbutin of Oceana High School faced his father's death, his mother's depression and financial hardship and decided to turn his life in a positive direction. He raised his grades from Ds and Fs to As and Bs, became co-president of his class and started Unity 2000, a campus organization dedicated to stopping teen violence.

Sarah Carr of Pescadero High School was considered a discipline problem with a bad attitude who wouldn't graduate. But she turned herself around with the encouragement of school staff and has improved her grades, stopped using bad language and started smiling. She plans to attend college next year.

Karen Cerri of Westmoor High School was abused by her biological and foster families until she was adopted into a loving home at age 10. She now coaches a swim team and serves as a peer counselor, and she hopes to become a paramedic or firefighter and adopt a foster child.

Rosalyn Curincita of Redwood High School and Sequoia High School was distracted from her school work while caring for relatives and marrying at an early age. She entered Redwood and made up two-and-a-half years of work in just one year. Although she works to support her family, she maintains excellent grades, enabling her to return to Sequoia to finish her senior year.

Jared Frias of Carlmont High School was in an automobile accident in which he lost a leg and two people died, including a friend who was like a brother to him. While in the hospital, Jared organized a Holiday Toy Drive for children in the hospital. And last fall, with the aid of a prosthetic limb, he returned to his favorite sport — football.

Renee Frost of Aragon High School has worked hard despite lifelong family disruptions and financial disadvantages. She attends the Regional Occupational Program, where she is described as "best in her class" in a Travel and Hospitality Careers course. As the school's receptionist, she greets the public, organizes the career center bulletin board and helps students enroll in classes.

Robert Gomez of Mills High School has been in a wheelchair since childhood because of cerebral palsy. With divorced parents, he has relied on himself to achieve his academic goals. Despite physical limitations, Robert participates in school activities, attends ball games and supports other students. He hopes to attend college and become a lawyer.

Diana Gonzalez of Community School North lived the life of a gang member from age 11 to 16. She attributes her transformation to the help of God, her best friend and her boyfriend. She graduated from the Gateway Center program with straight A's and enrolled in Community School North. She is on schedule to graduate with a GED by June and will attend Bryman College in San Francisco.

Robert "Tito" Gonzalez of Terra Nova High School is deaf in one ear, which affects his school performance. He was placed in special education in fourth-grade but worked so hard he switched to mainstream classes by sixth-grade. Robert has a 3.2 gpa, was voted "best artist" by his senior class and is considering a career in microbiology and genetics.

Emily Jaime gives credit for her achievement to a fourth grade tutor who encouraged

her to read, and that moves her to volunteer at an elementary school twice a week, and now 12 years after failing first grade, she's heading to Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Emily's father left the family when she was four, and she hasn't seen him much since, but her mother and grandmother encouraged her to make the most of opportunities, gap and told her to get a college diploma, something neither of them was able to do.

Lauren Kass of Pilarcitos High School had struggled in school starting in junior high. But after transferring to the Cabrillo district's independent study program, she thrived academically and personally. She received her diploma in February and now works at a preschool and rides and trains horses. She hopes to eventually open her own preschool.

Linda Khiev of Sequoia High School has held her family together since her mother's illness last year, working part-time and handling household duties. Despite the stress, she remains at the top one percent of her class academically. Linda hopes to become a physician.

Victor Lopez of Aragon High School has been largely independent since his mother returned to Mexico to care for his grandmother when Victor was 14. Victor has been a Peer Helper for three years and is a member of student government. He doesn't let negative peer influences deter him, and his dream is to become a pediatrician.

Wendy Maravilla of Thornton High School had a baby in her junior year and had to work part-time and enroll in an independent study program. She is training to become a certified nurse's assistant and working part-time at Marshall's. Wendy firmly believes she can accomplish her dreams, including her goal to become a registered nurse.

Osvaldo Munoz of El Camino High School faced his father's long illness and death this past October. Throughout this difficult time, he has remained a strong, mature and constant support to his mother and family and volunteered at Family Service Agency's Club Leo J. Ryan after-school program. Osvaldo plans to attend Skyline College and study computer science.

Daniel "Dan" Nawahine of Hillsdale High School has a "can do" attitude despite the challenges of having speech and language delays and various learning and motor challenges. He is a student in the Disorders of Language Program and plans on working at San Francisco International Airport in the Ramp Service after he completes the ROP Airport Training Program.

Sulia Pale of Capuchino High School was in an extremely traumatic car accident in 10th-grade, leaving her with deficits in learning, memory, attention and problem solving, along with emotional and personality changes. In June, Sulia will be the first in her family to graduate from high school. She plans to attend community college and have a career in the air and travel industry.

Amanda Peacock of South San Francisco High School has dealt with tragedy twice in her life. When she was seven, her baby sister died of leukemia. In March of this year, she lost her 8-year-old sister to leukemia. Despite this, Amanda completed ROP's Hotel and Hospitality Services Class and plans to attend a junior college after graduation.

Jason Shaughnessy of Hillsdale High School was abandoned by his father when he

was two years old. His mother disappeared when he was in fifth-grade. The support of his grandfather, aunt, uncle and cousins has enabled Jason to have a sense of belonging, to build confidence and to have maturity beyond his years. He plans on attending a four-year college and majoring in psychology.

Amelia Tauataina of Peninsula High School was chronically truant and her parents day laborers who spoke little English, had difficulty providing the academic support she needed. Through an interpreter, her parents connected with her teachers and counselors, and Amelia is now a star student. She completed a 125-hour internship at Alaska Airlines and was hired there. She plans to enroll in San Francisco City College.

Meghan Walsh of El Camino High School has had to bear more responsibility than usual for a person her age. When she was four, her mother was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis and must use a wheelchair. Her father became her mother's full-time caretaker, putting financial strain on the family. Meghan maintained a positive attitude and is a peer tutor, maintains a 3.7 gpa and is on the yearbook staff.

Ricky Whitfield of Sacred Heart Preparatory Academy was one of only eight students of color enrolled in Sacred Heart Preparatory Academy. Learning difficulties made school challenging. Then, on Dec. 26, 1999, his mother died after a battle with cancer. Ricky maintained his academic goals and stayed active in school drama and choral activities. He is considering becoming a minister or educator and wants to make a difference in his East Palo Alto community.

Tiffany Williams of South San Francisco High School moved to California during the summer of her sophomore year with hopes of attending a college in the University of California system. Without her parents and friends, she was homesick, scared and lonely, but she joined school clubs, tutored after school and became copy editor of the yearbook. She hopes to major in biology in college and later attend medical school.

IN RECOGNITION OF FRED
LIPPMAN AND WILL TROWER

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fred Lippman and Will Trower, soon to be awarded the Tree of Life Award given annually by the Jewish National Fund in recognition of outstanding community involvement and dedication to the cause of American-Israeli friendship. The extraordinary vision that these men share make them exemplary citizens, and I congratulate them both on this well deserved award.

The State of Florida as a whole has greatly benefitted from Fred Lippman's vision and leadership: Fred represented much of South Broward County in the Florida House of Representatives 1978 to 1998. A fervent supporter of the preservation of Jewish history, Fred received an award in 1997 for his efforts in cre-

ating and adopting Holocaust education curricula in Florida. He is also known as the "father" of the State of Florida's Area Health Education Center (AHEC) Program, a joint federal and state program that seeks to improve the supply and distribution of primary care health providers in medically underserved areas.

A 30 year veteran of the healthcare industry, Will Trower is currently President/CEO of the fourth largest public hospital system in the nation, the North Broward Hospital District. He has tirelessly worked to fulfill the North Broward Hospital District's mission of providing healthcare to Broward County residents through an integrated system, emphasizing community-based health programs. By advocating the expansion of services for primary care, mental health, and care for the chronically ill, Will has demonstrated his intense desire to better the lives of those around him in the South Florida community.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to convey Fred Lippman and Will Trower a heartfelt congratulations for this wonderful honor. Indeed, we owe both of these distinguished individuals a tremendous debt of gratitude, and I would like to thank both Fred and Will for their efforts on behalf of the entire South Florida community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN WOMEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON THEIR WNIT CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the University of Wisconsin women's basketball team for their outstanding season which recently culminated in their WNIT Championship victory.

The Badgers, led by Coach Jane Albright, advanced to the WNIT Championship for the second year in a row. However, this time their persistence was rewarded when they defeated Florida by a score of 75-74 and won the Championship!

The Badgers started the tournament by defeating both Fairfield and DePaul. They then went on to the third round and easily handled rival Michigan State. With three solid victories in hand, the Badgers could see the WNIT Championship in sight and did not look back. The team then advanced to the semifinals and dominated Colorado State through the entire game. In the Final, the Badgers were in championship form and pushed through to beat Florida and take home the WNIT Championship Title!

The Badgers are a role model for teamwork. The challenges they overcame would be difficult in the best of circumstances, but they overcame those challenges and achieved their goals in the high pressure atmosphere of the WNIT Tournament! I commend Coach Albright and the entire team for their exemplary performance. They represent well both the University of Wisconsin and the city of Madison. I would like to thank them for a very exciting season and congratulate them on their victory.

HONORING STATE REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD LEE "DICK" LIVINGSTON

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to a remarkable man, State Representative Richard Lee "Dick" Livingston, who passed away on Tuesday, March 28, 2000, following a six week battle with cancer. "Dick," as he was affectionately called, was a lifelong resident of Scott County, and a Democrat who served in the Mississippi Legislature for more than 29 years. He represented parts of Rankin, Scott, and Smith Counties. He followed in the footsteps of his father, the late Elwin Livingston, who also served in the Mississippi House of Representatives.

"Dick" was a native of Morton, MS. He was a graduate of Morton High School, East Central Community College, and Millsaps College. At Morton High School and Millsaps College he was a star athlete in football and baseball. In 1998, he was named Alumnus of the Year for East Central Community College. He was a former teacher and coach in the Scott County School System and owned and operated Dick Livingston Real Estate Company. He was a member of the National Guard, the Mississippi Wildlife Federation, the Morton Lions Club, the Morton Chamber of Commerce, and the Independence United Methodist Church, where he served as Church Lay Leader, Chairman of the Administrative Board, and taught in the Adult Sunday School.

In the Mississippi Legislature, "Dick" served as Chairman of the Game and Fish Committee, and was a member of the Appropriations Committee, the Public Buildings and Library Committee, and the Education Committee. As Chairman of the Game and Fish Committee, he strongly believed in promoting scenic streams legislation, developing a strong state park system, and providing the necessary leadership on all hunting and fishing matters. "Dick" was a firm believer in leading by example. He was an avid outdoors man, and in 1999, he received the Wildlife Federation's "Conservation Legislator of the Year" Award.

"Dick" Livingston had a passion for God's creation, and nothing thrilled him more than being in the outdoors and enjoying the beauty of the trees, streams, and woods. He was extremely dedicated to his family, which included his wife, Martha W. Livingston, his daughters Lee Ann Palmer, Jennifer Miles, Marsha Barnes, Rori Bridges, his son David, and his grandchildren, Blake and Bethany.

The legacy Richard Lee "Dick" Livingston leaves behind is one of service to his God, his country, his state and his community. I extend my deepest sympathy to his family, and at the same time, express my appreciation, and that of all citizens of the Third District, for his life of service to his fellow man.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
FOR OLIVE CROPS**HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing legislation today which will allow the U.S. Department of Agriculture to continue publishing information on the American olive industry. The industry, composed of 1,000 olive growers and the olive processors in California, heartily supports this proposal and urges that we act upon it as soon as possible.

Under federal law, the Department has allowed publication of information on olive crops and inventory for years. These statistics have given farmers, processors and food buyers critical information about the state of the industry. The statistics cover crop outlook, including expected production, inventories and carryover stocks, sales and other matters.

These statistics are important for a variety of reasons. Farmers use them when they bargain collectively with processors to sell a crop. The crop information also helps set assessments growers will pay to support research, marketing and inspection in the industry. The inventory and quality information made available to potential buyers helps create a more efficient market for sales of processed olives.

These figures are important because olives are an "alternate bearing" crop—every other year, crop size varies substantially. In some years, the crop will be double what was produced in the year before. When you consider that olive farmers may see crops vary by as much as 100,000 tons, you can see why farmers, processors and food companies would want accurate information about stocks and future supplies.

We need to pass legislation to allow the statistics to be issued because California has seen the number of olive processors fall during the past decade. With only two processors left in the foreseeable future, the Department of Agriculture is unable to publish information as the law is written today. My bill will give the Department the authority to continue releasing information on the industry.

The bill I am introducing offers a simple, targeted solution to the industry's trouble. The bill will permit the Department to release information if both the remaining processors (called "handlers" under the law) agree in writing that statistics on their operations may be released. The amendment would apply only to olives.

The bill has the strong support of California and national industry groups. It has been endorsed by the Olive Growers Council, The California Olive Association, the California League of Food Processors and the National Food Processors Association. They hope as do I that Congress will complete action on the bill in the near future.

THE MOST MEMORABLE FLIGHT
OF 1999**HON. BOB BARR**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, in March 1999 a flight crew from Lockheed Mar-

tin's Marietta, Georgia plant flew a C-130J into the record books. Aboard this flight was Lyle Schaefer, then Chief Experimental Test Pilot for Lockheed Martin, Pilot Arlen Rens, and Loadmaster Tim Gomez. They flew an unmodified C-130J with a payload of 22,500 pounds, and set 16 new world aviation records. Included in these was a record set in the Short Takeoff and Landing Category, where the crew took off and landed in less than the required 1,640 feet. For this and the many other records, the National Aeronautic Association dubbed this the "Most Memorable Flight of 1999," during a March 27, 2000 ceremony at the National Air and Space Museum.

The C-130J currently holds 54 world records and is the indisputable world leader in air-lifting capabilities. This is due in no small part to the men and women who build this fantastic aircraft, but especially the crew from Marietta, Georgia who piloted the "Most Memorable Flight of 1999."

TRIBUTE TO JUDY WHITBRED

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, a woman who has performed more than 30 years of service to this Nation is retiring, and I feel like I am losing my right arm.

Judy Whitbred has been my Chief of Staff the entire time I have been in Congress, and I am now in my 12th year in the House.

I have relied on Judy for thousands of things, big and small, day in and day out for all these years.

She has served with great dedication to the people of the Second District of Tennessee for almost 20 years, working first for my father and then for me.

She worked for more than a decade for Congressman John Hunt of New Jersey and Congressman Bill Young of Florida before starting to work for the people of Tennessee.

I have heard Judy Whitbred described by several people as "the best on Capitol Hill." I believe this to be true.

No one could have worked for the citizens of the Second District with more kindness and compassion than Judy. I know that no one would have worked harder.

Almost every night and most weekends, she took work home. I do not know how she was ever able to do nearly as much as she did.

Perhaps more importantly than simply working hard and putting in long hours, she produced results. She got the job done.

Many projects for the Second District and many problems that were solved for individuals, and for which I sometimes received credit, were really the result of Judy's hard work.

Judy unfortunately for me is taking early retirement to be able to spend more time with her husband, Andy, and help in the family business.

Judy's retirement is a great loss for me and my constituents, but it is very well deserved. I wish her the very best in the years ahead in every way.

To sum up, Mr. Speaker, Judy Whitbred is a young woman from the old school—dedicated to the Congress and to the American people.

She is a truly great American, and this Country would be a much better place if we had more people like my friend, my boss, my pal, Judy Whitbred.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN
ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, during the great debates between Senator Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln in 1858, Lincoln stood before thousands of hostile spectators to contest the moral issue of slavery in America. He warned of a nation that treaded upon the principles of equality and freedom, "Let us," Lincoln said, "united as one people throughout this land, until we shall once more stand up declaring that all men are created equal." His words, and dreams, renewed the heart of the nation to fulfill our promise to all people no matter their color, creed, or class.

Today, we too stand at a moment of decision. The debate on banning partial birth abortion provides us an opportunity of a lifetime—to protect the most innocent lives among us. This debate strikes at the very heart of who we are as a people—the core of our conscience and the character of our nation. It is our time, just as Lincoln answered the call of his convictions, to defend the defenseless and speak for those without voices.

What a privilege it is to make the right decision today.

Some in this House have cheapened this debate through distortions and distractions—not willing to unveil the reality that only seconds and inches separate thousands of children from life and death every year.

In Lincoln's time, our nation deemed slaves sixty-percent human. We shackled their legs and beat their backs. We disposed of them as mere chattel, auctioning them like cattle and demanded they give their life and labor for our prosperity. Are we much different today? We deem innocent babies—with kicking feet and beating hearts—less than human. We dispose of them as useless, in pretentious compassion discarding them as "unwanted."

Abortion is the civil rights issue of our time. This partial-birth abortion ban rescues our children from the slavery of choice.

I ask this body to make the right choice. Join Lincoln in the hallmarks of history as people who shall once more stand up declaring that all men are created equal. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the ban on partial birth abortions.

DESIGNATION OF APRIL 9, 2000 AS
WILLIE AND BERNICE RUCKER
DAY IN THIRTIETH CONGRES-
SIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON. Mr. Speaker, I proclaim April 9, 2000 as "Willie

and Bernice Rucker Day", in the Thirtieth Congressional District of Texas. This distinction marks the fiftieth wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Rucker.

Mr. and Mrs. Rucker grew up, met and married in New Orleans, LA. Mr. Willie Rucker retired from the United States Army in 1971 after serving over 21 years. He worked for the Regional Transportation District in Denver CO, taught ROTC for Denver Public Schools, and, upon moving to Dallas, worked for Dallas Area Rapid Transit, retiring in 1996. Mr. Rucker can attribute much of his successful career to the support of his wife. Mrs. Bernice Rucker has been a constant companion, friend and mother. Mr. and Mrs. Rucker are the parents of six wonderful children, Vernon, Rodney, Clyde, Candace, Debra, and Patrick, who have become productive members of society.

Mr. Speaker, The Ruckers are a prime example of true family values. They are a testament to the virtue of marriage and an asset to Texas. I ask the citizens of the Thirtieth Congressional District of Texas to unite with me in paying tribute to these great Americans. Please join me in celebrating "Willie and Bernice Rucker Day" on April 9, 2000.

RECOGNIZING THE WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS CHAMPION LUDLOW HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the accomplishments of the 1999 Ludlow High School girls soccer team. The Ludlow girls soccer team won the program's third Western Massachusetts title last year by defeating defending State champion Cathedral High School. The Lions defeated Central Massachusetts Champion Shrewsbury en route to the State final match, where they fell just short of their goal.

The Ludlow girls soccer team finished the year with a record 19–2–1. Ludlow was able to dominate a tough league in Western Massachusetts in 1999 by employing a highly skillful style of play. A team that was tough when it needed to be, Ludlow was capable of outclassing most of its opponents. As a result of their high class style, the Lions enjoyed the fervent support of the residents of the Town of Ludlow throughout the season.

Head Coach Jim Calheno has built a very successful program at Ludlow High School. Coach Calheno is well-respected in the teaching community and his team is duly feared. The Ludlow talent pool runs very deep, and the Lions are certain to be the team to beat in 2000. A group of talented Juniors, including All-American selection Liz Dyjak and All-New England selection Stephanie Santos, will be looking to claim the State title next season.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to recognize here the players, coaches, and managers of the 1999 Ludlow High School girls soccer team. The Seniors are: Melissa Dominique, Sandy Salvador, Angela Goncalves, Jen Crespo, Marcy Bousquet, Lynsey Calheno, Jenn Genovevo, and Leana Alves. The Juniors are: Nicole Gebbo, Lindsay Robillard, Lindsay Haluch, Kara Williamson, Sarah Davis, Liz Dyjak, Stephanie

Santos, Tina Santos, and Jessica Vital. The Sophomores are: Michele Goncalves, Lindsey Palatino, and Kristine Goncalves. The Freshmen are: Natalie Gebbo, Lauren Pereira, Beth Cochenour, Darcie Rickson, and Amy Rodrigues. The Head Coach is Jim Calheno, and he is assisted by Saul Chelo, Nuno Pereira, Melanie Pszeniczny, and Mario Monsalve. The managers are Melissa Santos and Elizabeth Barrow.

Mr. Speaker, once again, allow me to congratulate the Ludlow High School girls soccer team on a season well played. I wish them the best of luck for the 2000 season.

TRIBUTE TO MONSIGNOR SCANLAN HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. JOSE E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to and congratulate the Monsignor Scanlan High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team for a very successful year. This group of 13 young women finished their season with a record of 29 wins and 1 loss.

With this record they have demonstrated that they have the ability and the desire to be assets and role models in our community. We are proud of their accomplishments and I hope they will continue to be successful both on and off the basketball court. They are terrific examples for young women throughout our communities.

Again, I congratulate them and wish them the best of luck in their future enterprises.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to and congratulating Monsignor Scanlan High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team.

HONORING DEYOSSIE HARRIS

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Deyossie Harris, Vice President of the Galveston County AFL–CIO and former Galveston County Democratic Precinct Chairperson. I unfortunately will not be able to be with him when he receives the award this Saturday, but I want to congratulate him as he is recognized by the AFL–CIO for his many year of loyal service.

Deyossie is not only a great Galvestonian, but is a great American. He meets the description of a leader, and has been involved with every aspect of the community. Deyossie has contributed so much to the community of Galveston and the people who live here. He believes in Galveston and its residents, and has unfalteringly placed his time and energy into their well being.

He is a champion of the American worker, and has truly lived up to the mission of the AFL–CIO: to improve the lives of working families by bringing economic justice to the workplace and social justice to the nation. As an officer with the NAACP, Deyossie has

unfalteringly put his energy into creating a better America for all people.

A proud veteran, Deyossie served this country during World War II and was part of the forces that invaded Italy. He continued his service as a letter carrier, and upon retirement went to the University of Houston at Clear Lake and received both his bachelors and masters degrees. After graduation he taught history at the College of the Mainland. He is truly an inspiration to all, and is an example that education is something that can touch anybody, at any age. He epitomizes the phrase "education is for a lifetime."

Deyossie is a man who has committed his life not to himself, but to the people of Southeast Texas. He is a true believer in the democratic process and the idea that every body has a voice, and fought to make sure the working family's voice was strong. As an officer of the Central Labor Council, he created a tie between the community and local workers.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to speak on behalf of Mr. Deyossie Harris and all of his accomplishments. He is a man that I look to for inspiration as I continue to work for the communities and neighborhoods of Texas. While I can not be with him when he receives his award, I am proud to recognize him now.

RECOGNIZING BRADLEY FAY'S CRUSADE TO CURE DIABETES

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Mr. Bradley Fay, a nine year old hero, who inspires residents from my district through is tireless efforts in support of increased funding for diabetes research. Bradley, from Chatham, New York, was diagnosed with Type I Diabetes four and one half years ago. Since that time, Bradley has led a local crusade to educate citizens about the disease and raise additional funds to find a cure for diabetes.

Bradley fights to live a normal life in his upstate New York home—as normal as possible around the daily ritual of finger prick blood sugar tests, five insulin shots, and a strictly regimented diet. He actively participates in soccer, swimming, track, and the Boy Scouts. He also sings and plays the drums and bass.

Bradley recently visited my Washington, DC office in his role as Diabetes Ambassador for the American Diabetes Association. He won the trip by collecting 2,500 signatures on a petition in support of finding a cure for the disease. Bradley spent countless hours speaking to local citizens enroute to achieving his goal. I thank Bradley for educating the citizens of my district, as well as bringing his enthusiastic message to Capitol Hill.

Bradley's determination and desire to cure diabetes is commendable. I join Bradley in advocating a \$1 billion budget increase for diabetes research at the National Institutes of Health. Diabetes is a serious, debilitating, and deadly disease that must be cured.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the accomplishments of Bradley Fay and his Herculean efforts to increase funding for diabetes research. Also, please join me in advocating a budget increase to find a cure for this disease.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF MR.
GLENN J. WILLIAMS

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, today I honor a good friend of mine and a loyal champion of Second Amendment rights, Mr. Glenn J. Williams of Greenbush, Michigan. Glenn is the Founder and Executive Director of the Michigan Big Game Hunters Association, an organization which is widely recognized as the proud voice of the many hunters in the great state of Michigan. In fact, Mr. Speaker, I believe it would be fair to say that Glenn's strong commitment to big game hunting and the outdoors is only overshadowed by the many admirers and friends he has in Michigan and throughout the United States.

Glenn was born in Detroit, Michigan and graduated from Dearborn High School, where he lettered in baseball and track and was Captain of the cross country team. He later graduated from Henry Ford Community College and attended the University of Kentucky and University of Michigan. When Glenn was asked to serve his country, he did so without hesitation and served admirably in the United States Army. He later went on to a very successful career as a financial analyst with Ford Motor Company.

As long as I have known Glenn, I have known him to be a dedicated husband and a committed family man. In 1967, Glenn married Grace A. Dansbury, an exemplary role model and devoted mother to their daughter, Marcy. They recently fulfilled their lifelong dream of building a beautiful home on Cedar Lake in Greenbush, Michigan. There, Grace and Glenn enjoy their other hobbies, fishing and golf. And of course, they enjoy watching their two favorite teams, the Detroit Pistons and the Detroit Tigers, with their family and numerous friends.

Not only is Glenn a dedicated family man, but his formidable hunting skills have earned him many awards, and he holds a number of hunting records across our country. In the Safari Club International Record Book, he holds six records for whitetail deer, and two state records in Ohio. Glenn won the 1992 and 1993 Commemorative Bucks of Michigan Scoring Awards, and he received the "Don Bonafide Memorial Award", named after one of the founders of the Commemorative Bucks of Michigan.

Glenn's formidable hunting skills have earned him the respect of hunters everywhere, but it is his leadership and work in protecting the rights of the hunting community which have earned him the admiration of all those who enjoy the outdoors. Some years ago, Glenn asked for my support, which I was pleased to give, in founding the Coalition of Michigan Sportsmen. With Glenn's typical energetic style and relentless perseverance, he has made this organization a strong advocate for hunters' rights and wildlife conservation efforts, and I, along with hunters everywhere, appreciate his tireless efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I invite you and our colleagues to join with me in commending Glenn Williams for his work on behalf of our many hunters in Michigan and in our country. I can state without reservation that Glenn has been a power-

ful advocate on behalf of sportsmen everywhere, and those of us who seek to protect all Americans' Second Amendment rights.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 464 CALLING FOR THE MAGEN DAVID ADOM SOCIETY'S ADMIT- TANCE INTO THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a distinguished group of co-sponsors, I am introducing today a resolution calling for a reaffirmation of congressional support for the admittance of the Magen David Adom Society as a full member into the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

The Magen David Adom Society, an Israeli relief agency that is equivalent to the American Red Cross, has served countless people in need from many nations for over seventy years. The Magen David Adom Society has given this aid to individuals regardless of race, religion or nationality. In the last year alone, Magen David Adom Society members were directly involved in relief work in Kosovo, Greece, Turkey and Indonesia. They were also invaluable in helping American relief agencies in the wake of the tragic bombings of our embassies in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998.

It might come as a shock then that, while the national organizations of countries such as Iraq, Libya, and North Korea are all full members of the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, the Magen David Adom Society is not. Why has the Magen David Adom Society been denied membership in the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement since 1949? The answer to this question is simple, and sadly enough, political. The Magen David Adom Society has fulfilled the criteria for full membership, but has requested recognition of the Shield of David as its symbol. Out of respect for the sensibilities of Egypt, Turkey and other Islamic member nations, the International Movement has accepted the Red Crescent as a joint symbol, but has been unwilling to do the same for the Israel's Shield of David.

Israel's opponents have politicized the International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent against her, a practice the American Red Cross describes as "an injustice of the highest order." The American Red Cross has repeatedly sought to have the Magen David Adom Society admitted as part of the International Movement, but has been thwarted by the political prejudices of a small number of nations.

In 1987, Congress affirmed its support for the Magen David Adom Society by requesting that they be admitted to the International Movement as full members. After 13 years, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is still dragging its feet on the issue, and the Israeli relief agency remains the victim of politics. We must reinforce our support for this praiseworthy organization by adopting this resolution and letting the other members of the International Movement know that we do

not look favorably on political bias in international humanitarian organizations.

The following is an excerpt from the International Statutes of the Movement. "The International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions. The Movement may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature."

Along with my colleagues, I believe in the ideals expressed in the Statutes. We call on all members of the Movement to live up to its high standards of providing relief to people in need around the world in an effective and impartial fashion, by admitting the Magen David Adom Society of Israel and according it all the appropriate protections under international law.

I submit the full text of this measure to be printed in the RECORD:

H. RES. 464

Whereas Israel's Magen David Adom Society has provided emergency relief to people in many countries in times of need, pain, and suffering since 1930, regardless of nationality or religious affiliation;

Whereas in the past year alone, the Magen David Adom Society has provided invaluable services in Kosovo, Indonesia, and Kenya following the bombing of the United States Embassy in Kenya, and in the wake of the earthquakes that devastated Greece and Turkey;

Whereas the American Red Cross has recognized the superb and invaluable work done by the Magen David Adom Society and considers the exclusion of the Magen David Adom Society from the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement "an injustice of the highest order";

Whereas the American Red Cross has repeatedly urged that the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement recognize the Magen David Adom Society as a full member;

Whereas the Magen David Adom Society utilizes the Red Shield of David as its emblem, in similar fashion to the utilization of the Red Cross and Red Crescent by other national societies;

Whereas the Red Cross and the Red Crescent have been recognized as protected symbols under the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;

Whereas the International Committee of the Red Cross has ignored previous requests from the United States Congress to recognize the Magen David Adom Society;

Whereas the Statutes of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement state that it "makes no discrimination as to nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions" and it "may not take sides in hostilities or engage at any time in controversies of a political, racial, religious or ideological nature";

Whereas although similar national organizations of Iraq, North Korea, and Afghanistan are recognized as full members of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, the Magen David Adom Society has been denied membership since 1949; and

Whereas in fiscal year 1999 the United States Government provided \$119,400,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross and \$7,300,000 to the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That—

(1) the International Committee of the Red Cross should immediately recognize the Magen David Adom Society and the Magen

David Adom Society should be granted full membership in the International Committee of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement;

(2) the Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies should grant full membership to the Magen David Adom Society immediately following recognition by the International Committee of the Red Cross of the Magen David Adom Society as a full member of the International Committee of the Red Cross; and

(3) the Red Shield of David should be accorded the same protections under international law as the Red Cross and the Red Crescent.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE JULIA TAFT DISCUSSES HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS IN TIBET

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today the House International Relations Committee held a hearing focusing on the status of the negotiations between China and Tibet. The principal witness representing the Administration was the Honorable Julia V. Taft, Special Coordinator for Tibetan Refugee Issues and also the Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration.

Assistant Secretary Taft gave a particularly insightful analysis of the current situation in Tibet. She noted that "tight controls on religion and other fundamental freedoms continued and intensified" during the past year. She further noted that there were "instances of arbitrary arrests, detention without public trial, and torture in prison" as well as "intensification of controls over Tibetan monasteries and on monks and nuns. Religious activities were severely disrupted through the continuation of the government's patriotic education campaign."

Mr. Speaker, we have a number of important upcoming matters involving China and its human rights record. At the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, the United States has tabled a resolution calling for an investigation of human rights abuses in China. The Administration and many of us in the Congress are now engaged in a major effort to win international support of members of the Human Rights Commission for the full consideration of the resolution that our government has presented in Geneva.

Later next month, the House of Representatives will consider the Administration's proposal to grant Permanent Normal Trade Relations status for our trade with China. Many of us in the Congress have extremely serious concerns about the advisability of extending this status to China because of Beijing's human rights record.

Because the printed transcript of today's hearing of the International Relations Committee will not be available to member of the Congress for several months, Mr. Speaker, I ask that the outstanding testimony of Assistant Secretary Taft be placed in *The RECORD*. I urge my colleagues to give careful and thoughtful consideration to her statement as we consider the issues that will be before the Congress in the next few months.

STATEMENT OF JULIA V. TAFT, SPECIAL COORDINATOR FOR TIBETAN ISSUES, HOUSE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE APRIL 6, 2000

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, it is a great honor to appear before you today to testify on the current situation in Tibet.

I was appointed a little over a year ago to serve as Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues. My policy goals are two-fold: first to promote a substantive dialogue between the Chinese government and the Dalai Lama or his representatives, and second, to help sustain Tibet's unique religious, linguistic, and cultural heritage.

Mr. Chairman as you and your colleagues know, disputes over Tibet's relations with the Chinese government have a long, complex history. Recognizing that this is your third hearing on Tibet, I do not propose to summarize it again today. Instead, I would like to describe the current circumstances in Tibet, talk a little about developments over the past year, and what I've been doing since my appointment.

CURRENT SITUATION IN TIBET

As our human rights report on China for 1999 makes clear, tight controls on religion and other fundamental freedoms continued and intensified during a year in which there were several sensitive anniversaries and events. This year's report documents in detail widespread human rights and religious freedom abuses. Besides instances of arbitrary arrests, detention without public trial, and torture in prison, there was also an intensification of controls over Tibetan monasteries and on monks and nuns. Religious activities were severely disrupted through the continuation of the government's patriotic education campaign that aims to expel supporters of the Dalai Lama from monasteries and views the monasteries as a focus of "anti-China" separatist activity. UNHCR reported that 2905 Tibetans left Tibet during the year, and Tibet Information Network reported that approximately 1/3 of those left to escape campaigns and pursue religious teaching in India. In fact, two of Tibet's most prominent religious figures have left Tibet during the past 18 months reportedly for these reasons. The 14-year-old Karmapa, leader of Kagyu sect, and the third most revered leader in Tibetan Buddhism, left Tibet in late December to pursue religious teachings in India. Agya Rinpoche, former abbot of Kumbum Monastery, a senior Tibetan religious figure and an official at the Deputy Minister level, left China in November 1998. Among reported reasons for his departure were increased government pressure on Kumbum Monastery including the stationing of 45 government officials, the imposition of patriotic re-education, and a heightened role demanded of him by the Government in its campaign to legitimize Gyaltzen Norbu, the boy recognized by the Chinese leadership as the 11th Panchen Lama.

Although China has devoted substantial economic resources to Tibet over the past 20 years, it remains China's poorest region. Language problems severely limit educational opportunities for Tibetan students, and illiteracy rates are said to be rising sharply. The average life span of Tibetans is reportedly dropping, infant mortality is climbing, and most non-urban children are chronically undernourished.

Recent reports suggest that privatization of health care, increased emphasis on Chinese language curriculum, and continuing Han migration into Tibet are all weakening the social and economic position of Tibet's indigenous population. Lacking the skills to compete with Han laborers, ethnic Tibetans are not participating in the region's eco-

nomie boom. In fact, rapid economic growth, the expanding tourism industry, and the introduction of more modern cultural influences also have disrupted traditional living patterns and customs, causing environmental problems and threatening traditional Tibetan culture.

In Lhasa (the capital of Tibetan Autonomous Region) Chinese cultural presence is obvious and widespread. Buildings are of Chinese architectural style, the Chinese language is widely spoken, and Chinese characters are used in most commercial and official communications. Drawn by economic incentives to the region, ethnic Han Chinese are estimated to comprise more than half the population of Lhasa; some observers estimate the non-Tibetan population of the city (mostly Han and Hui) to be roughly 90 percent. Chinese officials estimate that 95 percent of Tibet's officially registered population is Tibetan, with Han and other ethnic groups making up the remaining 5 percent. These numbers reportedly do not include the large number of "temporary" Han residents, including military and paramilitary troops and their dependents, many of whom have lived in Tibet for years. The Dalai Lama, Tibetan experts, and others have expressed concern that development projects and other central Government policies encourage massive influxes of Han Chinese, which have the effect of overwhelming Tibet's traditional culture and diluting Tibetan identity.

Reports indicate that increased economic development combined with the influx of migrants, has contributed to an increase of prostitution in the region. Experts who work in the region report that hundreds of brothels operate openly in Lhasa; up to 10,000 commercial sex workers, mostly ethnic Han, may be employed in Lhasa alone. Much of the prostitution reportedly occurs in sites owned by the Party or the Government, under military protection. The incidence of HIV among prostitutes in Tibet is unknown, but is believed to be relatively high.

Because of the deterioration of the Chinese Government's human rights record the U.S. Government announced on January 12 its intention to introduce a resolution focusing international attention on China's human rights record at this year's session of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR) in Geneva. We are working hard with other nations to defeat China's anticipated no-action motion and to pass the resolution.

Our criticism of China's human rights practices reflects core values of the American people and widely-shared international norms—freedom of religion, conscience, expression, association, and assembly. These rights are enshrined in international human rights instruments, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which China has signed but not yet ratified or implemented.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

In addition to utilizing multilateral human rights fora, the President and Secretary Albright have continued to use every available opportunity to urge the Chinese leadership to enter into a substantive dialogue with the Dalai Lama or his representatives. President Jiang Zemin indicated to President Clinton during their June 1998 summit in Beijing that he would be willing to engage in such dialogue if the Dalai Lama affirmed that Tibet and Taiwan are part of China. Despite our repeated efforts throughout the year to foster such dialogue and the willingness expressed by the Dalai Lama, the Chinese leadership has not followed up on Jiang's remarks to the President. Nevertheless, the Administration remains committed to implementing an approach to human

rights that combines rigorous external focus on abuses while simultaneously working to promote positive trends within China including, in the case of Tibet, Chinese willingness to engage with the Dalai Lama to resolve Tibet issues. I am convinced that this principled, purposeful engagement will produce results over the long-term.

We have also continued to raise individual cases of concern. Most notable is the issue of the welfare and whereabouts of Gendhun Cheokyi Nyima the boy recognized by the Dalai Lama as the Panchen Lama and his parents, who have been held incommunicado now for nearly 5 years. When we received disturbing, unconfirmed reports the boy had died in Gansu province and was cremated in secrecy, our Embassy made formal representations expressing concern about his whereabouts and welfare. Although the reports of his death were unsubstantiated and thought to be untrue by the Tibetan exile community, the Administration publicly urged the Chinese Government to address continuing concerns of the international community about the safety and well-being of the child by allowing the boy and his family to receive credible international visitors, and to return home freely. The Chinese government has continued to refuse to allow direct confirmation of his well-being.

In response to an inquiry from the Congress, the Chinese Government acknowledged the whereabouts and earlier ill-health of Ngawang Choephel, the Tibetan ethnomusicologist and former Middlebury College Fulbright Scholar who was incarcerated in 1996 and is now serving an 18-year sentence on charges of subversion. We have repeatedly urged the Chinese government to allow his mother to visit him while incarcerated, as is her right under the Chinese Prison Law. However, her repeated requests to be allowed to visit him have not been granted. We have also urged China to release Ngawang Choephel on medical grounds as a humanitarian gesture.

WHAT I'VE BEEN DOING OVER THE LAST YEAR?

Over the past year I have made it a point to learn all that I can about Tibetan issues so that I am able to ensure the effective presentation of these issues in our U.S.-China bilateral discussions. I have maintained close contact with the Dalai Lama's Special Envoy to Washington, Lodi Gyari. Throughout the year, I requested meetings with the Chinese Ambassador, however, such meetings have not been granted. I am hopeful that this year I will be able to sit down with the Ambassador and discuss the Chinese government's views on social, political, and economic issues related to Tibet, as well as explore ways we can help get the dialogue back on track.

I've met with scores of people from like-minded countries, government officials, people from foundations and academia, experts in U.S.-China relations and NGO officials. Each meeting has produced ideas on how to improve the situation inside Tibet, as well as substantive thoughts about how to restart dialogue. Despite the fact that I am the only Special Coordinator for Tibetan Issues world wide, my appointment has prompted other nations to identify counterparts to discuss this issue. I realize now that there is a wealth of knowledge and talent around the world interested in helping to improve the situation in Tibet. In fact, I just returned from Brussels where the European Parliament held an all-Party Parliamentary Session on Tibet to discuss multilateral efforts and how we can best coordinate future strategies.

In January I visited Dharmasala, India in my capacity as Assistant Secretary for Population, Refugees and Migration. The pur-

pose of my trip was to evaluate and review the \$2 million in assistance programs the United States provides for Tibetan refugees.

After receiving a very warm welcome, I had the opportunity to meet with many members of the Central Tibetan Administration (CTA) to discuss the grant. I was overwhelmed by the tremendous sense of good will and community, especially among the younger generation despite the fact that this generation has never even seen Tibet. I learned on my visit that nearly the entire Central Tibetan Administration is made up of Fulbright Scholars. These bright, young adults undoubtedly had much more lucrative opportunities in the United States, Europe or India, yet a remarkable 96% have returned to Tibetan settlements to make their talents available to the CTA. Equally impressive is how traditional Tibetan culture is integrated into nearly every facet of daily life.

However, having just been to Nepal in October where I met with new arrivals who were traumatized and had endured great hardship while crossing the Himalayas, I was anxious to visit the transit center in Dharmasala where all new arrivals spend some time before being placed in settlements throughout India. During my visit the center was teeming with refugees. The new arrivals were quiet, but far more animated than the refugees I had seen in Kathmandu just three months earlier. The rooms were crowded, but clean and orderly. Many were wearing the new shoes and dark pants they received after arriving at the Kathmandu reception center. Attached to the transit center was a small, three-room medical clinic for routine medical care.

Although the USG grant makes a very positive impact on the lives of these refugees by providing support for the reception centers, preventive health care, basic food, clothing, clean water and income-generating projects, I am looking into funding repatriation for Tibetans that return to Tibet from the PRM budget as well as exploring ways that IO's, NGO's, and private industry might be helpful in developmental assistance.

Additionally, I met with the Dalai Lama twice over the past year and I look forward to seeing him this summer when he is in Washington for the Smithsonian Folk Life Festival. During the meetings I have had with him, he reiterated his concern about the marginalization of the Tibetan people living in Tibet and requested that I devote some attention to finding ways to improve the lives of those still in Tibet through culturally sustainable enterprises. As I began to narrow down options on ways to be helpful, Congress appropriated \$1 million to support activities which preserve cultural traditions and promote sustainable development and environmental conservation in Tibet. The responsibility of the earmark was assigned to the Bureau of East Asia and Pacific Affairs and my office will have an important role in managing the money and monitoring the performance of these new programs over the course of the year.

A Congressional Notification is before Congress which would allocate \$750,000 to the Bridge Fund for several agricultural and micro credit initiatives in Tibet. The remaining \$250,000 will be made available through a competitive process for NGO's who qualify for project funding.

CONCLUSION

The treatment of Tibetans by the Chinese government over the past 50 years has been inconsistent with international norms and standards of respect for fundamental human rights. The Dalai Lama has shown enormous courage in accepting the impracticality of insisting on independence and calling for "genuine autonomy" within Chinese sov-

ereignty. Chinese spokesmen have responded by stating their willingness to engage in a dialogue with the Dalai Lama if he renounces independence and pro-independence activities. The problem appears to be solvable. Ultimately it comes down to a question of will, especially on Beijing's side. There are significant Chinese interests that could be advanced in moving forward on Tibetan autonomy. The Dalai Lama is still active and healthy; his prestige will be crucial in carrying the opinion of the Diaspora and most Tibetans in the autonomous regions. Only he can ensure the successful implementation of a negotiated settlement.

Conversely, maintaining order over an unhappy population is a drain on the resources of a still developing country. Widespread knowledge of China's human rights offenses in Tibet has brought about pressure on China's leadership to explain its Tibet policy to the international community. My impression is that the situation in Tibet deeply troubles China's international partners and foreign leaders and that this is affecting their diplomatic engagement in Western countries.

Since China's number one priority is the stability and the unity of the PRC, Chinese leaders may find that a more enlightened policy toward Tibet would be an important step toward enhancing the respect they have earned from the economic transformation of their country. It is my sincere hope that parties will resume dialogue that looked so promising in 1998. Preservation of Tibet's unique cultural and religious traditions depends on it.

In closing, I would like to thank you for this opportunity to testify today. I look forward to working with you another year on this extremely important issue.

TRIBUTE TO BASTROP HIGH SCHOOL ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, today I pay tribute to the Student Council Energy and Environment Committee of Bastrop High School in Bastrop, Texas. This dedicated group of students has been working diligently on projects to increase awareness about energy conservation and the environment.

Some of their projects include trash pick-up, recycling, efficient driving and car maintenance training, and coordination of Earth Day festivities in Bastrop on the third weekend of April. They have also spread information by way of books, pamphlets and posters around their community. Not only has their work improved the safety and appearance of the campus and surrounding area, but it has also increased feelings of school unity and pride among the students.

Their local focus is an example to all of us that local involvement is key to solving most problems faced by Americans today. I am proud to represent such a responsible and dedicated group of young people.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting the Student Council of Bastrop High School. This is an excellent way to show sincere appreciation for those who take the time and energy to improve their communities for themselves and others.

HONORING THE WAKE FOREST UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. RICHARD BURR

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. BURR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, although yesterday was the day for the Michigan State men's and University of Connecticut women's basketball teams to shine, I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize the winners of the other national championship that took place during the month of March. While North Carolina and Duke both performed admirably during the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, only one team from Tobacco Road returned home this past weekend with the champion's hardware and only one team from the ACC will begin next year's season on a winning streak—my hometown Wake Forest Demon Deacons—the past Thursday evening in Madison Square Garden the Deacons easily disposed of Notre Dame to win its first national invitational tournament. Now the critics of this tournament will be quick to call Wake Forest the “65th best team in the Nation”—a reference to not making the NCAA field of 64. And several Wake fans, in midst of a 3–9 mid-season slump, might have taken a 65th place finish, but the Deacons, led by Coach Dave Odom and his staff chose to turn this season around, winning 8 of its last 9 games, salvaging a 22–14 record and a national championship. Credit for this victory goes to all the Deacon players, from leading scorer Darius Songalia and NIT Tournament MVP Robert O'Kelley to strong bench support from Craig Dawson and Josh Shoemaker. The Deacons losing only two players from this year's team, look to carry the momentum of this late season success into next year's season, when they hope to readily hand over the NIT championship trophy as they make their way to the ultimate goal—the NCAA Tournament.

Once again—congratulations to Wake Forest.

H. RES. 458, AUTISM AWARENESS

HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the importance of autism awareness, as well as to offer my support and to express my admiration for my constituents, Shelly and Aiden Reynolds, for their hard work and dedication in co-founding Unlocking Autism.

Unlocking Autism is an organization dedicated to raising public awareness about autism as well as raising money for biomedical research. This organization has launched a national awareness project called Open Your Eyes, and is striving to collect 58,000 pictures of persons with autism from across the United States. This collection will debut in Washington, DC from April 5th thru 9th of this year.

The Hear-Their-Silence Rally is a response to the fact that autism and related conditions have been estimated to occur in as many as 1 in 500 individuals (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention 1997). This statistic is

higher than the incidences of Multiple Sclerosis, Downs Syndrome, or Cystic Fibrosis. At least 400,000 people in the United States are affected, and yet little is known about this disease.

When people become aware of a disease, they will begin to strive for, and demand action to further the understanding and prevention of that disease.

To this end, I am pleased to be sponsoring legislation that will express the sense of the House of Representatives. I urge the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to recommend to the Postmaster General a commemorative postage stamp which would further the cause of autism awareness and place autism before the American people.

Shelly and Aiden Reynolds have used the reality of their son Liam's diagnosis of autism to fuel their fight to bring this disease to the fore front of national awareness. Countless others have joined their efforts. A commemorative stamp would give a face to those individuals afflicted with autism. Let us give them a voice

CHRISTINE BELL—A GOOD CITIZEN

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to submit this outstanding essay on “good citizenship” for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. It was written by one of my constituents, Christine Bell, a high school student in Morland, KS who won first place in an essay contest sponsored by the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution in Hays, Kansas. Christine's essay reminds us all that it is an honor to be a citizen of the United States and that the key to maintaining our freedoms and liberties is to exercise them. She pays tribute to our founding fathers, the veterans, and active military who put their lives on the line for our country and reminds us all what has been risked to protect the red, white and blue. Christine also points out that there are numerous ways to serve our country in addition to the military. Voting in elections and removing your hat during the Star Spangled Banner are to small ways that Christine mentions people can show good citizenship.

I was extremely impressed with Christine Bell's essay and her belief in the need for good citizenship. I hope she will continue her efforts on behalf of the merits of good citizenship. Treating others with respect is the most basic concept of maintaining freedom, and Christine has already discovered this early in her life. I congratulate Christine on her insight and her efforts in promoting good citizenship and respect for those who have made this country so great.

OUR AMERICAN HERITAGE AND OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PRESERVE IT

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.” Students of this nation once stood in their classrooms with their right hand over their heart in allegiance to the flag which symbolizes their freedom. Students across the country no longer stand to pledge allegiance to their flag every morning and many could not correctly recite the pledge if asked to do so.

When I attend ball games and watch the parents' example. I begin to see why respect

for the flag has been lost. Many adults do not remove ball caps, and the majority fail to put their right hand on their heart or even look at the flag when the “Star Spangled Banner” is sung.

Have Americans forgotten how fortunate they are to live in a free country? The fathers of this country fought to break free from the bondage of Great Britain. Many lives were lost as blood and tears were shed for the freedom of every single person who lives in the United States. On July 4, 1776, we declared independence and then won, in battle, the right to that independence.

When I talk to soldiers in our United States Army, I find that these people truly desire to preserve a nation so well-founded. Our soldiers are very honorable and deserve respect for volunteering their lives to serve this country. Our veterans deserve even more recognition for fighting for our country.

Why then, do United States soldiers have to put up with mocking civilians who implicitly spit on and shame them? These ignorant civilians do not realize that the tax money they are so fervently worried about is spent to serve them in times of crisis. The money our government invests in armed forces is to protect and preserve this country that serves its citizens. The lack of respect for the flag and for our soldiers, however, is not the only downfall in the American public.

With every presidential election of the twentieth century, the number of those who vote has systematically lowered. If that trend continues at the rate it has, after only a few more elections, the number of votes will be so low that we, as voters, may lose our right to vote for the President of the United States. In a country where the people have such an opportunity to make their voices heard, it is said to see less than half of the eligible voters cast a vote. The people of America need to take more interest in their country and strive to preserve their rights. If we do not exercise them, we very well may lose them.

The individuals in our government also need to earn respect and become the honorable leaders they should be. Honesty would be a very good first step. Americans have lost respect for President Clinton because of his occasional inability to tell the truth. The Clinton sex scandals are not far in the back of our minds, and the events at Waco, Texas have brought controversy also.

A combination of honesty, respect, and remembrance may just be the key to preserving our American heritage.

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF NURSING RESEARCH

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I stand today as a former nurse and strong supporter of the National Institute of Nursing Research, to draw your attention to the tremendous challenges faced by women suffering from chronic health conditions that affect their productivity and quality of life. I urge my colleagues to join me in making the advancement of women's health a national priority.

Because of my nursing background, I know first-hand that it is imperative to assure access to quality healthcare. And as a woman, I know that we have special health needs. Studies show that women suffer from a variety of ailments such as heart disease, breast cancer,

and depression at alarming rates. Women experience more chronic illness and are prescribed more medications by their physicians than men. Depression, for example, most often strikes women between the ages of 25 and 44. Because of the devastating impact of depression on women during these prime productive years, depression now ranks as the number one cause of disability in women.

I was proud to co-sponsor a recent congressional briefing with the Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research entitled, "Reaching Gender Equity in the 21st Century: A Renewed Focus on Women's Health." The briefing featured nurse researchers who presented compelling data on different chronic, debilitating conditions that affect women three times more often than men.

The National Institute for Nursing Research (NINR) appreciates the affects of chronic diseases on a woman's productivity and has merely touched the tip of the iceberg relative to women's health needs and concerns. I am proud to be a member of the nursing community and support the continued work at the NINR. I am circulating a letter to the Appropriations Committee, calling for a significant increase in funding for NINR. NINR is currently undertaking important research to help Americans most efficiently manage their health care problems, so that they will not have to seek hospital care. The purpose of NINR is to support and conduct research and research training to reduce the burden of illness and disability, to improve health-related quality of life, and to promote health and prevent disease, including research on the best methods to help people choose health-promoting behaviors and lifestyles. Research programs supported by the NINR address a number of critical public health and patient care questions, including women's health issues.

Here in Congress, we need to support efforts to empower more women to understand and effectively manage chronic illnesses and live more productive and happier lives. We also need to reaffirm our commitment to advancing the understanding of women's health in this country and to assure that scientific knowledge is quickly put into medical practice. I am proud to support NINR and its research, and to have co-sponsored their recent event focusing on women's health. We have made major accomplishments in this area, but we in Congress must keep supporting these efforts. There is still so much to be done.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, many fingers have been pointed today and much has been said about what this side believes and what that side believes. I am here to tell you what I believe.

I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2149, the Late-term Abortion Restriction Act. Roe v. Wade and successor decisions are the law of the land and this bill is consistent with the law.

The bill would ban all late-term abortions, regardless of the type of procedure used, with

exceptions only to protect the life of the mother and to avert serious adverse health consequences. Because it bans abortions based upon viability of the fetus rather than the type of procedure used, it will prevent late-term abortions in a morally and constitutionally sound manner.

I considered many factors in deciding to co-sponsor H.R. 2149. I am a believer in the Constitution. The Supreme Court has repeatedly confirmed that our rights include the right to make our own medical decisions.

No one can say ending a pregnancy is an easy decision, nor can anyone claim the idea of late term abortions for only convenience is anything but ethically wrong. This bill strikes a balance and adheres to the Court's requirement that any law protect the life and health of the pregnant woman. H.R. 2149 meets all these constitutional requirements.

This bill should be law because it addresses what the American people truly want to stop—the termination of a viable fetus during late stages of pregnancy, unless there is a serious threat to life or health of the mother.

The President has said he would sign H.R. 2149 into law. If opponents of abortion truly want to stop late-term abortions, this is the bill that will do it.

Today, I will vote against H.R. 3660, the Partial Birth Abortion Ban Act. I urge my colleagues to consider H.R. 2149 as an effective and constitutionally sound solution to this deeply personal issue.

TRIBUTE TO ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY IN NORMAL, ALABAMA

HON. ROBERT E. (BUD) CRAMER, JR.

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding academic institution in my district, Alabama A&M University on the occasion of their 125th anniversary. Since its founding by Dr. William Hooper Council, Alabama A&M has flourished and brought accolades and honors galore back to North Alabama.

On May 1, 1875, Alabama A&M opened with a state appropriation of 1000 dollars, 61 students and 2 teachers. Today it is a thriving university boasting a wide variety of degree programs ranging from the associate to the Ph.D. degree. Their commitment to academic excellence and individual student need are almost unparalleled.

This is a fitting tribute for an institution that has instilled knowledge and character in so many young people for over a century. I am proud of Alabama A&M and their undergraduate and graduate school offerings. Alabama A&M is North Alabama's only source for an accredited master's degree in social work. For the past three consecutive years, they have had five students listed on the USA Today Academic Team and they are listed among the Top 50 Black Enterprise/DayStar Schools.

On behalf of the U.S. Congress, I pay homage to Alabama A&M and thank them for the countless contributions they have made to our community. I congratulate the university on their 125th anniversary and look forward to many more years of success and growth.

PARTIAL-BIRTH ABORTION BAN ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 5, 2000

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I will vote against HR 3660. For the third time in five years, the House of Representatives is considering a bill to ban so-called "partial birth" abortions. For the third time since I came to Congress we will be voting on a bill that is almost certainly unconstitutional and will be vetoed by the President.

The advocates of the bill suggest that this version has been changed to address some of the constitutional concerns. This bill does recognize that the lives of mothers have a claim to protection, but it remains silent when there is a threat to a woman's health.

During the previous consideration of this type of legislation, Congress and the President heard from many women for whom this type of legislation would have dire consequences. These women and their families were all confronted with tragic situations and, with the qualified medical direction of their doctors, made the incredibly personal and difficult decision to terminate their pregnancy. Congress has no place in that decision. This legislation would have a catastrophic effect on the lives of families like these.

HR 3660 is more about politics than good policy. If the Congress were serious about preventing abortion, it would not be fighting efforts to make family planning more widely available. If it were serious about protecting children, it would do much more to ensure available child care and quality schools.

Proponents of this bill show gruesome pictures of objectionable procedures and ignore the pictures of the many real families who have had to make difficult decisions in the face of tragic circumstances. We cannot continue to ignore those pictures and the wrenching reality they represent.

My position on this most sensitive of personal decisions is very simple: Congress should not interfere. I will oppose this legislation.

C.B. KING UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 3, 2000

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, the late C.B. King of Albany, Georgia was born on October 12, 1923, one of eight children of Clennon W. and Margaret Slater King, who raised a truly extraordinary family. Following graduation from high school, he served in the Navy and then earned his bachelor's degree from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee and his law degree from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio. Although other promising opportunities were available to him, he decided to return home and become the only black attorney practicing in his community, and one of only three practicing in Georgia outside of Atlanta.

As an attorney, a civil rights leader, and a pioneering political candidate, C.B. King spent the remainder of his life making contributions to the cause of justice, opportunity, and dignity for all Americans. Although he remained Albany-based throughout his career, limiting his activities primarily to the areas of southwest Georgia where he was raised, he became a nationally-known figure whose impact was felt throughout our state and the nation at-large.

He was a courageous leader of the Albany Movement, suffering a severe beating and facing many threats to his life during a campaign described by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as one of the crucial battles of the civil rights struggle. He ran political races for President, Congress and as the first black gubernatorial candidate in Georgia since Reconstruction, not because he thought he would win, but because his candidacy provided a forum for the causes he represented and helped pave the way for future minority candidates. He was a compassionate citizen, devoting much of his time to pro bono law work for the poor and volunteering his time and talent in community projects for the needy. He was a Navy veteran, a faithful member of his church, and a loving husband and father. Perhaps he is remembered most of all as the lead attorney in a series of landmark law suits that broke down old walls of discrimination and opened new doors of opportunity.

It is therefore fitting, Mr. Speaker, for this Congress to name the new federal courthouse in Albany, Georgia for the late Chevene Bowers King, and I want to thank all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their wholehearted support of this legislation.

The list of breakthrough cases that he won is extensive. Among them are:

Gaines v. Dougherty County Board of Education; *Lockett v. Board of Education of Muscogee County*; *Harrington v. Colquitt County Board of Education*. These cases, involving multiple appeals over a period of years, led to full compliance with *Brown v. Board of Education* in those communities, accelerating the pace of desegregation in other areas.

Anderson v. City of Albany; *Kelly v. Page*. These cases reaffirmed the right of citizens to peaceably assemble.

Bell v. Southwell. This case ended the use of segregated polling booths, voiding an election where separate booths were used.

Brown v. Culpepper; *Foster v. Sparks*; *Thompson v. Sheppard*; *Pullum v. Greene*; *Broadway v. Culpepper*; *Rabinowitz v. United States*. These cases prohibited the use of jury selection lists on which blacks were under represented and ended the exclusion of blacks on juries on the basis of race.

Johnson v. City of Albany. This case led to the end of discriminatory practices in local government employment.

C.B. King possessed many extraordinary qualities. Courage was certainly one. There are countless examples of how he stood his ground in the face of danger. Although he acknowledged there were times when he was frightened, he never once backed down when he believed he was in the right. His tenacity was legendary. Once he entered the fray, you knew he would be in the thick of the battle until the end. He never gave up. His skills certainly were awesome, as his record as an attorney confirms. Through it all, he was a man who cared deeply for his community, state,

and country and for people of all races, creeds, and backgrounds.

I wonder what our state and country would be like had C.B. King not challenged the status quo in federal court and forced desegregation of the public schools in many communities, raising the quality of education for many children. Would we ever have seen the talent of a Hershel Walker, a Charlie Ward, or Judge Herbert Phipps?

Had C.B. King not gone into Albany's Federal Court to force compliance with laws prohibiting discrimination in employment based on race, creed, religion, or gender, how many local governments would have been deprived of the talent of countless African-American public-sector employees? This was a milestone in the history of the South and southwest Georgia.

What kind of justice system would we have if C.B. King had not gone into federal court to end the age-old practice of excluding blacks and women from serving on juries? What if C.B. King had not been there to have our federal courts protect the rights of citizens of all colors to peaceably assemble, have equal access to public facilities, and to be free of discrimination in voter registration, in the voting booth and in running for office? Indeed, I nor any other African-American would be able to hold public office, regardless of our qualifications or abilities, had it not been for C.B. King's work.

On March 15, 1988, this great leader passed away following a long illness.

Mr. Speaker, it's not the two dates on our tombstone that are important. It's what happens in-between. What happened in the life of C.B. King changed the course of our history.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN BADGERS MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM FOR AN OUTSTANDING SEASON

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, today I congratulate the University of Wisconsin men's basketball team for their outstanding season and their advancement last weekend to the NCAA Final Four.

The Badgers demonstrated outstanding teamwork and sportsmanship at the Final Four. Not since 1941 have the Badgers advanced so far in the NCAA tournament. While they may not have scored more points than Michigan State, they played with heart and spirit. In doing so, they proved to everyone that they have what it takes to win a National Championship in the future. I applaud Dick Bennett and this exemplary team for an amazing season and a truly monumental tournament.

The Badgers are a clear illustration that perseverance, determination, and hard work can take you to great places. The games over the past season have brought together the University of Wisconsin, evoked strong school spirit, and shown to everyone how thrilling it is to be a Badger! It has been an outstanding year for the Badgers and as an alumna it is exciting to be a part of something so special. I commend the basketball team and look forward to many exciting seasons to come!

IN HONOR OF THE NORTH OLMSTED HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND AND EAGLETS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the North Olmsted High School Marching Band and Eaglelets, of North Olmsted, Ohio.

This 194 member marching band deserves praise for their hard work and dedication. These committed young people, most having played an instrument since 5th grade, have been practicing every morning and Wednesday evening since the beginning of the year. Because of this devotion, the band had the opportunity to play in the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade, in Cleveland, winning both the best band and best unit categories. Under the direction of John Kepperley, Martin Witczak, and William Ciabattari, the North Olmsted Marching Band and Eaglelets will have the honor of playing in this year's Cherry Blossom Festival in D.C. on April 8, 2000.

It takes a special individual to participate in marching band. You must be a team player, sacrificing the needs of the individual for the collective interests of the unit. You must be diligent, precise, dedicated, and focused. The many hours of practice can tax even the most patient of souls. The North Olmsted marching band has made a special mark on the North Olmsted community and their experience will serve them well, as both fond memories of their trip and in knowing that their efforts have brought pleasure to their audiences.

I ask you fellow colleagues to join me in honoring The North Olmsted High School Marching Band and Eaglelets for their hard work and dedication.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLARENCE GRANGE NO. 892

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 100th Anniversary of Clarence Grange No. 892.

More than 250 years ago, George Washington wrote "I know of no pursuit in which more real and important services can be rendered to any country than by improving its agriculture." Despite the passing of the centuries between our generation and that of our Founding Fathers, their wisdom is eternal.

Since its conception as an agricultural organization, the Grange has grown to be much more than that. It reflects and embraces the spirit of fellowship, community, faith and family.

For the past 100 years, Clarence members have embodied the purposes and the principles of the Grange—"meeting together, talking together, working together," striving to "secure harmony, good will and brotherhood."

As a longtime member of the Grange myself, I've seen the great work they do, their commitment to community, and devotion to faith and family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this Congress join me in extending both our heartiest congratulations on the 100th birthday of Clarence Grange No. 892, and our sincerest best wishes for continued success as they begin another century of service to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Ms. VELAZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, due to an error by the House Tally Clerk, I was incorrectly shown as voting "no" on rollcall No. 103, and "not voting" on rollcall No. 104. I was present during both rollcall votes and during voting for rollcall No. 103, I voted "yes", and during rollcall No. 104, I voted "no."

HONORING DR. SAMI REPISHTI ON HIS SEVENTY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. KING. Mr. Speaker, today I honor and congratulate an exemplary constituent of mine, Dr. Sami Repishti, on his seventy-fifth birthday. Throughout his life, Dr. Repishti has been dedicated to fighting human rights violations to which he has been long exposed.

Dr. Repishti was born in Shkoder, Albania in 1925. He and his family were victims of Italian fascist and Nazi terrorism. Despite being arrested and jailed for "pro-American" activities, Dr. Repishti immigrated to the United States in 1962. He continued his college education and eventually received a Doctorate in French in 1977 from the City University of New York and the University of Paris, France. From 1966 to 1991, he taught French and Italian in the Malverne Public School System, serving as District Chairman of the Department of Foreign Languages from 1976 to 1991, and from 1976 to 1991 was an adjunct professor at Adelphi University. He retired in 1991 after a dedicated and fruitful teaching career.

After his retirement, Dr. Repishti founded the National Albanian American Council in 1996 and served as its president until 1998. This organization is dedicated to fighting for freedom and human rights for all Albanians. He has testified before the United States Congress several times, and nobly represented the Albanian American community at the White House and Department of State. He has long been a leader of cultural and political activities and is a well-respected member of his community.

Dr. Repishti currently resides in Baldwin, New York with his wife Diane. They have two children: Daron, a physician, and Ava, a lawyer.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly honored to represent such a respectable man, Dr. Repishti's life should serve as an example for all Americans. It is my pleasure and honor, to congratulate Dr. Sami Repishti on his birthday and to sincerely offer him my best wishes.

TRIBUTE TO SISTER EDMUNETTE PACZESNY, HILBERT COLLEGE PRESIDENT

HON. JACK QUINN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. QUINN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to pay tribute to my longtime friend and colleague, Sister Edmunette Paczesny, who this evening will be formally recognized and honored for her 25 years of service as president of Hilbert College.

I've had the true pleasure of working closely with Sister Edmunette as a Councilman and Supervisor for the Town of Hamburg where Hilbert is located, and during these past 8 years as a Member of this Honorable Body.

Throughout the past 25 years, Sister Edmunette's tenure as president has been distinguished through the expansion from a 2-year to a 4-year institution. She has seen the college grow, with the completion of Franciscan Hall. A year ago, she added an economic crime investigation degree program, which is one of only two such degree programs nationwide.

Sister Edmunette's long-standing affiliation with Hilbert began in 1962, when she served as an instructor in psychology and philosophy and later served as Academic Dean.

In addition to her outstanding commitment to Hilbert, Sister Edmunette has been widely recognized for her tireless efforts and dedicated service to our community. She has received the Liberty Bell Award for the Erie County Bar Association, the Community Service Award from the Southtowns Coalition of Community Service, and was recently named the 1999 Citizen of the Year by the Hamburg Independent Citizens Club.

For the past 44 years, Sister Edmunette has maintained an active membership with the Franciscan Sisters of St. Joseph. In addition to her religious service, Sister Edmunette is a member and past secretary of the Western New York Consortium of Higher Education and the Rotary Club of Hamburg/Sunrise, a member of the Mirror Board of Mercy/Our Lady of Victory hospitals and on the board of directors of Hopevale, Inc.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to join the faculty, staff, and administration of Hilbert College, the countless students who have studied at Hilbert, and indeed, all of Western New York in tribute to Sister Edmunette Paczesny. Best wishes to her in her next quarter century at Hilbert.

IN HONOR OF AL GUZMAN, RESPECTED POLICE CHIEF AND LEADER

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment in order to express my gratitude and thanks to the Union City, California Chief of Police Al Guzman, who unfortunately will be retiring at the end of June.

Al Guzman came to Union City so that he could fish along the shoreline. Later, as a col-

lege student, Guzman volunteered his time to ride along with the newly founded Union City Police Department. Soon after, he was invited to join the police force as a reserve officer.

In March of 1968, Al Guzman was hired by the Union City Police Department as a full time officer and remained loyal to the force for 33 years. Moreover, he served as the Department's Chief of Police for 13 years. Chief Guzman is a leader in involving the community with police concerns so that conflicts and tensions within the city are solved more efficiently and quickly, ensuring a safe and healthy city.

Coupled with Guzman's loyal service to the police force, he worked closely with school officials and parents to address the needs of students. This resulted in his creation of the School Resource Officers program in Union City and the New Haven Unified School District.

Furthermore, through his leadership and vision, Union City initiated many innovative programs including the Head Start Child Care Center located in the Decoto Park Plaza. Additionally, another achievement of Chief Guzman's is the adoption of the graffiti abatement program and the creation of the Fred Castro Park. Chief Guzman also was a co-founder of the Police Activities League in Union City which is responsible for providing sports for young people as well as sponsoring the Community Health and Science Fair.

Despite all of Al Guzman's extraordinary accomplishments, he is also the first Police Chief in California to involve civilians in the creation of both a Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving program as well as the COPPS officers program. In addition to their creation, under Chief Guzman's leadership, two resource centers were established that housed the COPPS program with community based organizations that provide services for Union City residents. Guzman's COPPS program was recognized by Chiefs Magazine as the model program for California.

Union City recently earned recognition by the National Civic League as an All-American City and also received the Helen Putnam Award for Excellence by the League of California Cities. And all of this was accomplished during the tenure of Chief Guzman.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this great community leader and visionary. Chief Al Guzman played an immense role in making Union City a safe and model city for others to follow and respect.

HONORING THE EXEMPLARY SERVICE OF SGT. CHARLES A. DAVIS

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American role model. Sgt. Charles A. DaVis has faithfully served the residents of Eatontown and the State of New Jersey for 25 years. He has diligently performed his duties and has acted in such specialized positions including, Patrolman, Detective, Juvenile Officer, Patrol Sergeant and most recently as the Community Affairs Officer.

As a Juvenile Officer he utilized his college training in Social Sciences and began a Family Crisis Unit in Eatontown, where he spent

many hours with troubled teens and assisted them and their parents in ways to find common bridges over the "generation gap". He spent countless hours in our local public schools, explaining to children about the hazards of illegal drugs and alcohol abuse. He also spent time teaching younger children through such programs as "Danger Stranger" and Halloween Safety.

Most recently he has served as our Community Affairs Officer and has acted as an intermediary to help neighbors resolve their differences before they escalate into courtroom battles. In addition he has initiated a new program entitled The Citizen Police Academy. This program indoctrinates interested citizens in many different aspects of police work and helps them to understand how a police department diversifies itself to address crime, traffic and public service in our town. As you can see, Sgt. DaVis has worked very

hard at advancing the concept of "Community Policing" in Eatontown.

If this isn't enough, Sgt. DaVis initiated the Bicycle Patrol in Eatontown and he is presently regarded as one of the leading training officers in the state of New Jersey for Police Bicycle Patrol. Sgt. DaVis has been an instructor at the Monmouth County police Academy for nearly 20 years. He is a martial arts expert and he instructs police recruits as well as veteran officers in hand to hand defense tactics, use of the police baton, and in the use of martial arts.

All of his specialized efforts have been sandwiched around the normal duties of a uniformed police officer who began his career in 1973 and who has spent the last 12 years as a supervisor. Sgt. DaVis has spent his career serving the people of Central New Jersey and I rise today to honor this stellar career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RONNIE SHOWS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 6, 2000

Mr. SHOWS. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the floor of the House on Monday, April 3, 2000, on official business and was unable to cast recorded votes on rollcalls 96 and 97.

Had I been present for rollcall 96, I would have voted "yea" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 1089, the Mutual Fund Tax Awareness Act, as amended.

Had I been present for rollcall 97, I would have voted "yea" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 3591, to provide for the award of a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to former President Ronald Reagan and his wife Nancy Reagan in recognition of their service to the Nation.